



MISSION: INTEGRATION

HANFORD

MISSION

INTEGRATION

SOLUTIONS

NEWSLETTER

September 2022



MISSION: GROWTH

Enabling growth is crucial to our role as the essential services provider and One Hanford cleanup mission integrator.



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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



As we come to the end of Fiscal Year 2022, I am immensely proud of the remarkable work the HMIS family has accomplished, all we’ve learned, and how much we’ve continued to grow and evolve despite the challenges we’ve faced.

Enabling growth is crucial to our ability to deliver as the essential services provider and One Hanford cleanup mission integrator. As we continue to prepare the Site for upcoming 24/7 operations, the systems, services, networks and relationships we build have significant impacts on the future success of the Hanford Site.

I’m pleased with the growth we have experienced so far, not only in its quantity, but also its quality. We’ve grown intentionally and with a solid game plan, an open mind, and a consistent focus on safety in all we do. We continue to set the groundwork for a bright and successful future built on a foundation of innovation, integrity and efficiency.

I am confident the systems we build will pay great dividends in the future. As we look ahead, I am excited about our continued growth and the long-term success of the cleanup mission. Thank you for all your hard work!

Bob

Guest Message – Ryan Burdo

This month’s theme of growth is very timely. As the new chief financial officer, I am squarely in growth mode and drinking from the proverbial fire hose. Thankfully, I am starting with a solid foundation. In 2009, I was presented with a career shaping opportunity supporting the transition of the Hanford Mission Support Contract under MSA. It was my first experience with Hanford and contracting with DOE.

In that role, I was able to oversee development of MSA’s overhead rates and rates for our usage-based services. This exposed me to some of the unique accounting rules and requirements that apply to government contracts. It also gave me an opportunity to tour our facilities and see firsthand how we deliver critical essential services for the Site’s cleanup mission.

In 2016, I left Hanford to serve at PNNL, most recently in support of their portfolio of national security work. While the national security mission is different, the role of the CFO organization as a trusted partner in mission execution is largely the same. At our core, we are a service organization providing financial support and guidance to HMIS and DOE, ensuring transparency and compliance in our financial operations. My goal as CFO is to continue to build a healthy, stable finance organization that delivers top tier service to our customers.

There are so many opportunities ahead as major milestones in the Hanford cleanup continue to be met. As I reflect on the path that brought me here, I am reminded of the many things that have changed over the years. However, one thing hasn’t; the importance of our role in support of the Hanford cleanup mission, and I am proud to once again be a part of it.



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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Greg Zook

Greg Zook fills an important role – doing work that not everyone is cut out for. An enterprise architect in our Information Management Services organization, he is also a chaplain to local prisoners and inmates, helping with a variety of services. Greg says much of the assistance is spiritually based, but can also be educational or administrative, and he performs whatever is needed that fits his capabilities.

“I didn’t set out with any plan to start doing this,” said Greg. “I needed a volunteer outlet of some type. I tried the Chamber of Commerce. While they do great things, I wanted something more directly impactful with individuals. Someone brought me into the jail to meet the chaplain and it took off from there. Volunteers can reach an inmate in a way prison staff simply cannot. The inmates express their gratitude every time we meet, and they know I am spending my free time trying to help them.”

Greg says he is rewarded with every trip. The pandemic limited visits from volunteers, and Greg is grateful for the opportunity to make an impact again, “My sincere hope is that I help people make better decisions during their incarceration but, more importantly, when they leave.”

Employees Represent HMIS at VPPPA Safety+ Symposium

Contributor: Ginger Benecke



Employees accept HMIS Star of Excellence Awards from DOE's Brad Davy at the 2022 VPPPA Safety+ Symposium in Washington, D.C.

HMIS proudly maintains three Voluntary Protection Program Stars for HAMMER, Safeguards and Security, and Mission Support Services. The VPP program recognizes those who implement effective safety and health management systems and maintain injury and illness rates below the expected average.

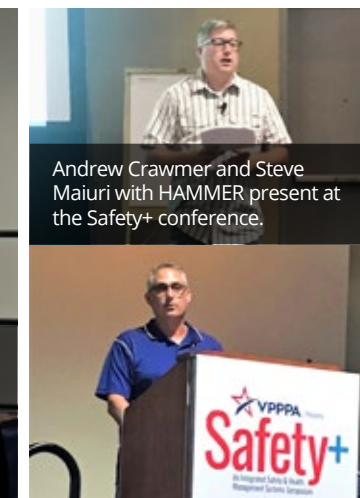
In addition, at this year’s Voluntary Protection Program Participants’ Association Safety+ Symposium in Washington, D.C., our Safeguards and Security and Mission Support Services each received the Star of Excellence Award for outstanding mentoring, outreach, goal setting and support of VPP. Awardees must have a recordable incident injury rate 75% better than the average of other U.S. businesses in the same industry.

HMIS Core Team members, a unified committee of union members, safety representatives and professionals, as well as HMIS Employee Zero Accident Council chairs, continue to mentor, assess, guide and prepare HMIS organizations to effectively meet and exceed the VPP requirements for outstanding safety and health programs.

Also at the symposium, Andrew Crawmer and Steve Maiuri led a workshop called “Relying on VPP Tenets During the Pandemic,” highlighting HAMMER’s ability to safely reopen after only a brief shutdown in 2020.



Ginger Benecke with Traffic Safety and Safety Programs co-presented with CPCCo Traffic Safety Committee member Andy Foster on *Enhancing Traffic Safety on a Government Site*.



Andrew Crawmer and Steve Maiuri with HAMMER present at the Safety+ conference.



Masha Sells was one of 28 firefighters recognized at the Hanford Fire Department graduation ceremony, for completion of the 16-week New Recruit Training Academy.

Hanford Fire Department Celebrates Graduates, Promotions

Contributor: Melissa Ver Steeg

Forty-one members of our Hanford Fire Department were formally recognized at a recent graduation and pinning ceremony for accomplishments from 2019-2022. This includes 28 firefighters who graduated from the past four New Recruit Training Academies, and another 13 individuals for their promotions during that time.

Graduates endured a 16-week training regimen that took them through a wide range of company-specific and hands-on fire training, including lessons on beryllium, confined space, fall protection, hazmat technician, fire

rescue, criticality training, standards for fire protection suppression and fire alarm systems, wildland firefighter training, and more.

During the ceremony, President Bob Wilkinson shared stories of his experience watching the HFD in action over the years, acknowledging this department to be “the best of the best” and congratulating graduates on their “capacity to work hard day in and day out to earn a spot on this team.”

David Chase, vice president of Safeguards, Security & Emergency Response, complimented the team on their demonstration of excellence



Deputy Chief Nick Thomas receives his promotional pin during the Hanford Fire Department graduation ceremony.

and their choice to serve the public, recognizing it is a small minority who choose this line of work.

Office of River Protection and Richland Operations Office Manager Brian Vance acknowledged the instructors of the training academy for their work and provided firefighters with the perspective that their impact reaches beyond the Hanford mission, into our communities and across the Pacific Northwest.

These ceremonies had been on hold due to COVID-19 and this was a great opportunity to celebrate everyone’s hard work and dedication.

HANFORD FIRE ACADEMY 2019 GRADUATES

Jessica Brown
Lucas Simmons

HANFORD FIRE ACADEMY 2020 GRADUATES

Tyler Culp
Isidro Diddens
Steven Donaldson
Trystan Drury
Tyler Hake
Christopher Helms
Sam Loffler
Robert Reynolds
Britney Wuesthoff

HANFORD FIRE ACADEMY 2021 GRADUATES

Christina Aamodt
Jesse Johnson
Tristan Keith
Daniel Osorio
Jonathon Palmieri
Gavin Reid
Michael Richardson
Kyle Riche
Jaime Sanchez
Masha Sells

HANFORD FIRE ACADEMY 2022 GRADUATES

Tyler Coffell
Hunter Cunningham
Conner Durham
Scott Miller
Randal Raschko
James Read
Houston Zander



HANFORD FIRE 2019-22 PROMOTIONS

Capt. Jarrod Andreas
BC Sean Barajas
Lt. Jeffrey Cleavenger
Capt. Brett Dahl
Capt. Kyle Harbert*
Lt. Charles Hill
Capt. David Newman*
Lt. Joel Savage
Capt. Kevin Sells*
Capt. Andrew Stocker*
Lt. Carl Tilton
Lt. David Wheeler
Deputy Chief Nick Thomas

*Promoted to Lieutenant and to Captain

RECOGNITION

Safety is the Focus at HAMMER

Contributor: Hayley Jay

After a two-year hiatus, HAMMER's EZAC and VPP teams orchestrated its 11th Safety Focus Day. HAMMER began this tradition in 2010 to focus the team on the importance of safety and health, both at work and at home. This year included a welcome message and briefing from Brian Vance, DOE Office of River Protection and Richland Operations Office manager, and Brian Von Barga, HMI's vice president of Interface and Integration Services.

These briefings provided a status update on the One Hanford mission and how HAMMER can best support future Site needs. A guest speaker from WRPS shared the importance and benefits of community STEM outreach and Washington State Patrol gave a thorough briefing on distracted driving. These topics struck chords with our team both personally and professionally, the first on the importance and impact of volunteering and the second on the deadly results of distracted driving.

HAMMER leadership briefed the staff on HAMMER history, emergency response plans, the 2022 VPPPA national conference and EZAC/ISMS 101. HAMMER Director Paul Vandervert stated, "Safety Focus Day is an important part of our culture and a valuable way for the HAMMER team to build teamwork, learn and focus on safety and health."



The HAMMER team gathered for a team photo on the stairs of the burn building during the 11th Safety Focus Day.

RECOGNITION



Hanford firefighters assisted the Kennewick Fire Department with a brush fire that burned a commercial building.

Hanford Fire Assists Kennewick

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Our Hanford firefighters rushed to help put out a brush fire that grew quickly in the Southridge area of Kennewick late this month. News reports said a truck accidentally caused the fire along Interstate 182 and Highway 395. It burned a building and about 70-acres before it was put out. Our HFD team responded with a wildland water tender to help the Kennewick Fire Department gain control of the blaze.

"I wanted to share a personal thank you for the assistance from your agency," said an email from KFD Fire Chief Chad Michael. "The conditions created some substantial challenges for us. Without the assistance we received, the outcome could have been significantly worse than what it was."



Our team proudly displays the new sign that will be installed near the Hanford Site. From left, Aaron Fergusson, Grant Gutierrez, Darci Teel and Ted Morales.



Dulcie Allen offered a tour of the EOC to Grant Cooper, director of the Western Region for the National Weather Service.

ONE HANFORD

Mission Assurance, Emergency Management & Preparedness Teams Host National Weather Service

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

The Hanford Site hosted a visit from the Western Region Director for the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service this month. Dr. Grant A. Cooper brought a team from the NWS in Pendleton to tour the Hanford Emergency Operations Center and visit the Hanford Meteorological Station.

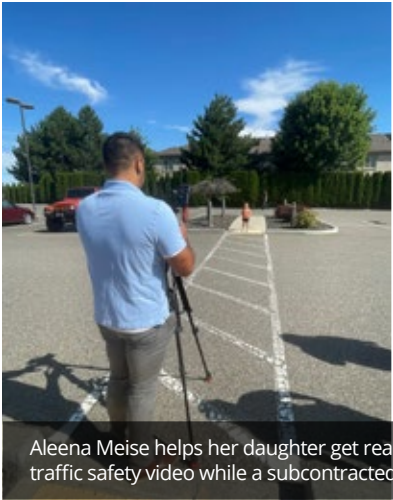
This visit would have been unlikely without ongoing efforts by our Mission Assurance meteorologists to forge a partnership with the local NWS office. This partnership and trust were only further solidified by last year's state record for the highest temperature documented in Washington – captured by our own meteorology team. It's highly unusual to accept non-NWS data as a new state record and speaks to the trust placed in our team and the accuracy of our weather instrumentation.

Additionally, the NWS received a detailed tour of the Hanford EOC, explaining the role of each responder during an activation. The NWS has visited the EOC three times this year, noting the team's capabilities and resources as part of the successful effort to designate the Hanford Site as StormReady, a voluntary program from the NWS intended to help emergency managers strengthen hazardous weather operations through communication, mitigation and community preparedness. This latest visit included presentation of a road sign that will inform passersby of our ability to help the local community in the event of severe weather.

"It's important to strive for a StormReady designation because the team is already weather-aware," said Cooper. "It's a critical element for the community, not only for safety working in the field, but for any incident."

Mission Assurance Vice President Darci Teel noted that any time there is an important event or emergency, weather impact is often the first inquiry, "We're not just integrating for the Hanford Site, we're integrating for the community and the region."

ONE HANFORD



Aleena Meise helps her daughter get ready for her scene in the "Back to School" traffic safety video while a subcontracted videographer sets up the shot.



WRPD Commander Jared Kelly and RPD Officer Kevon Skinner are two of the seven law enforcement representatives who provided tips for the Traffic Safety Campaign.



One Hanford Traffic Safety Campaign

Contributors: MaryAnne Wuennecke & Cerise Peck

You may have seen a series of videos focused on traffic safety topics posting on HMIS' and DOE's social media channels. They are the result of a partnership with seven local law enforcement agencies to call attention to timely traffic safety issues. This campaign was put together by HMIS Safety Programs in lieu of the annual safety expo.

Being the first collaboration of this type and scope, bringing together so many external partners was challenging – but well worth it to share some important messages, says Ginger Benecke from Safety Programs, "We wanted this partnership with local law enforcement because Hanford and its employees are part of this community. We're One Hanford, but we are also one community, and it takes all of us to keep our roads safe."

The first video in the campaign coincided with students heading back to school and starred Willow, the daughter of HMIS employee Aleena Meise, along with representatives from the Kennewick and Pasco police departments sharing guidelines for driving near school crosswalks and buses.

Additional videos focused on tips from the Benton and Franklin County sheriff's offices on how to avoid collisions with large animals, and reminders of the risks of aggressive driving from the Richland and West Richland police departments. A final video on Washington's "Slow Down, Move Over" law, featuring the Washington State Patrol, will be shared in October.

Check out all the videos as they are released on the **Hanford Site YouTube channel**.

Cougs Learn about Hanford Bees

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Washington State University now has nearly 2,000 bee specimens collected by our Environmental team. WSU is adding the bees to its entomology collection. The bees were once collected as part of the Hanford Site Pollinator Study, which had the goal of determining best practices for pollinator health on the Site. From here, WSU will use the donated specimens to document bee species diversity around the Columbia Basin. Since there's a worldwide decline of insects, and especially bees, understanding as much as we can about pollinators is an important aspect of their conservation.

The shrub-steppe ecosystem on the Hanford Site creates a refuge for wild bees, but it had been a challenge to protect them without detailed studies. This is why our Environmental team took up the effort a few years ago under MSA, collecting data on the pollinators to identify which plants attract the highest amount and diversity of bees. This information is then used to determine the best plants for revegetation that also create bee habitat.



Biologist Emily Norris studies pollinators on the Hanford Site.

The pollinator study collected and identified nearly 2,000 bees and about 150 butterflies and moths over a six-month period. Nearly all of the North



American families of bees were spotted on the Site during that time, with most in the Halictidae family, a small, nearly hairless bee that can often be confused for other flying insects.

Since the study was completed, our Environmental team has continued to protect sandy soil areas, unique habitat and vegetated areas near the Columbia River to preserve valuable bee habitat. “We’ve updated the Hanford Site Revegetation Manual to include pollinator-focused habitat restoration and have used pollinator-friendly species when restoring vegetation in disturbed areas,” said Emily Norris, biologist for Mission Assurance. “The Environmental team has also been evaluating how to protect and restore bee nesting areas to support locally abundant species.”

K East Reactor – As You’ve Never Seen It!

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Our small Unmanned Aircraft System Drone Program captured picturesque images of CPCCo’s effort to cocoon the former K East Reactor. The former plutonium-production reactor is being placed in interim safe storage, protecting the building while radioactivity in the deactivated core decays over time.

So far, the metal sheeting on the walls is complete and the roof is underway with the project expected to finish this fall. It will be the seventh of eight former reactors intended for interim safe storage, a status managed by our teams.

Images taken from the drone provide a new angle to the depth and size of the gargantuan enclosure that has risen on the Hanford Site. Our Infrastructure & Site Services group launched the drone program earlier this year after extensive testing, offering a new option for inspections and other documentation on the Hanford Site.



Drone pilot subcontractor Drew Sneyd (below, right) operates the device over K East Reactor to capture these images.

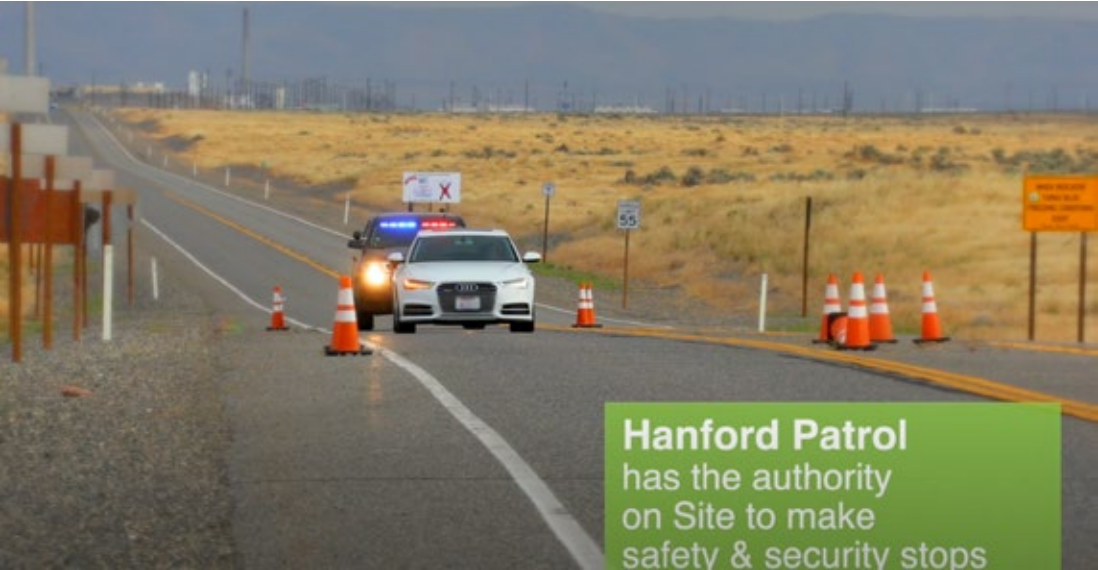


Hanford Patrol
Message for Safe and
Secure Site Access

Contributor: Jill Harvill

Darkness and badges and speeding, oh my! As fall approaches, Hanford Patrol wants to remind us that everyone plays a role in keeping access to the Hanford Site safe and secure. Hanford Patrol verifies your secure access at each of the three barricades.

As you proceed through the barricade, it's important to slow down and be prepared to stop, since a few scenarios exist where you might need to. For example, being asked to pull over, you drop your badge, or the vehicle in front of you stops. Check out this new **Safe and Secure Access video**, brought to you by Hanford Patrol.



Participants on the panel discussion, “A New Era for Hanford and the Tri-Cities” at the National Cleanup Workshop. From left, HMIS President Bob Wilkinson, Bechtel-WTP Project Manager Valerie McCain, Office of River Protection and Richland Operations Office Manager Brian Vance, PNNL Director Steven Ashby, WRPS President Wes Bryan and Hanford Communities Executive Director David Reeploeg.



President Bob Wilkinson spoke about HMIS’ role as the Hanford Site integrator now and for future mission progress.

MISSION: GROWTH

National Cleanup Workshop Provides
Opportunity to Share Progress

Contributor: Cerise Peck

The National Cleanup Workshop offered a chance for President Bob Wilkinson to share progress made over the past year and discuss how HMIS will continue to support the cleanup mission. A panel discussion titled “Entering a New Era for Hanford and the Tri-Cities,” was a One Hanford collaboration that included leadership from DOE, Bechtel, CPCCo, HMIS, WRPS, PNNL and Hanford Communities.

Bob discussed how we are supporting DFLAW and other cleanup activities as the Hanford Site integrator using the One Hanford governance model, “We have made, and continue to make, significant strides forward, while taking a ‘proud but not satisfied’ approach. I have no doubt this team will continue to set the standard using One Hanford as the mission moves forward.”

The panel also highlighted key infrastructure systems needing updates, as well as the vast systems maintained by our teams, including a large electrical grid that supplies 20 megawatts of power across the Site, water treatment that produces 3.5 million gallons a day, plus project support and maintenance of the 342 miles of paved roads that serve the Hanford Site.

“Along with the infrastructure needs, we are expanding our realistic training options with drones and mixed reality, introducing new Enterprise Resource Planning and Business Management Systems with product lifecycle management, and remaining innovative, yet reliable, with our cybersecurity, understanding its critical role in our long-term success,” said Bob.

Pointing out that our cybersecurity blocks 75 million cyber-attacks per month, Bob reaffirmed how HMIS is essential to Site cleanup and will continue to support the mission through integration and prioritization of essential services, while utilizing innovation and aiming for the Net Zero World Initiative to reduce carbon emissions.



An Aug. 16 hybrid public meeting took place at the Richland Public Library and virtually on Microsoft Teams.

MISSION: GROWTH

Innovative Technology Facilitates Return to Public Meetings

Contributor: Patrick Conrad

In collaboration with DOE, the External Affairs team expanded its use of technology to facilitate the first hybrid public involvement meeting in more than two years.

The team utilized a Meeting Owl device that interfaces with Microsoft Teams, allowing virtual participants to observe and interact from different locations. The Owl offers a 360-degree camera that can be controlled by a cell phone, along with a high-quality, 360-degree tri-speaker and long-range microphone.

During the meeting, the team shared presentations via an in-room projector and over Microsoft Teams, taking questions from participants in person and online. Speakers and representatives from various agencies addressed the questions in a discussion that was open to everyone. The meeting was also recorded and uploaded to YouTube with a link on Hanford.gov to be reviewed at any time, further extending access for those unable to attend.

Retaining a remote option while resuming in-person meetings expands access and allows everyone to participate in the meeting on the same level. Using innovative technology, the hybrid meeting represented a meaningful step forward for inclusivity and improving the services provided.

MISSION: GROWTH

Team Focus: Treasury Office

Contributor: MaryAnne Wuennecke

If you appreciate receiving your paycheck on time, you have the Treasury Office to thank! And that's just one of the many multi-million-dollar fiscal activities this group handles on a weekly basis. Along with processing payroll for three prime contractors and two closeout offices – approximately 6,000 employees totaling around \$13 million – the Treasury team also handles an average of \$16 million in accounts payable (for all contractors), monitors contractor bank accounts, tracks financial activity, receives payments and handles travel and relocation expenses for HMIS employees. The group also includes two matrixed system admins to keep systems, like TIS, running smoothly.

There are a lot of moving parts, and Treasury never really has a slow period. Fortunately, Treasury Office Director Lance Kraftenberg says the 18-member group works well as a team, “No single person has full control over a payment process, and everything is complex. For example, every contractor has a slightly different time charging policy that pay clerks must know when looking at how specific employees charge their time. And something like reissuing a paycheck isn't as easy as just pushing a button – there are steps and verifications that must be done. Every process has multiple elements, and everybody contributes their piece. There's a lot to it that people don't recognize.”

And it's not like their work can just wait until tomorrow – bills come in daily and payments must go out on time. Lance credits his team with doing a stellar job week in and week out, especially since they were short-staffed for much of the year, with only two pay clerks instead of the usual six. “Payroll has to be done, so we're here until we're finished, whether that's 7 p.m. or 3 a.m.,” said Lance.



Front (L-R): Samantha Charvet, Jillian Merk, Gina Teel, Stephanie Lane and Myrna Smith
Middle (L-R): Tamara Lawyer, Jaymee Elliott, Darla Ford, Stefanie Morgan, Kerri Lampson, Jenny Cervantes and Katie Flohr
Back (L-R): Lance Kraftenberg, Glynn Stevens, Teri Parke and Melissa Valadez
Not pictured: Susan Erpenbeck, Sarah Carlson and Blake Chapman

MISSION: GROWTH

Pagers Go the Way of the Cassette Tape

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Pagers have been phased out on the Hanford Site, with the remaining users turning in their devices this month. While most communication has evolved, after the legacy pager system arrived in the 1980s, it stuck! At one point, thousands of pagers were in use on the Site.

You might ask why pagers continued to be used well beyond the invention of the iPhone – and it’s because Information Management Systems wanted to ensure any new technology could match the same coverage and reliability that came from the tried-and-true Hanford Site paging system.

“As much as we make fun of pagers being antiquated, they’re really dependable,” said Todd Eckman, VP of IMS. “The battery life is long-lasting, and they work anywhere to assure 24/7 communication to emergency and operations personnel. Because we can now leverage combinations of texting and smartphone applications, we were able to retire this system with confidence.”

The eventual demise of the pager came from operational issues. Not surprisingly, it became a challenge to find replacement parts and Cybersecurity raised its own concerns. The pager system was most heavily used by the Hanford Emergency Operations Center as well as Hanford utilities and is now replaced by the AtHoc mobility application as well as cellular-based text messaging. Prior to the final turn-in, our Emergency Management & Preparedness team conducted trial runs of the new notification systems, including for chlorine alarm testing at 283W.

Todd offered a final sendoff to the system, “Goodbye, old friend. You served us well, but even the DVD gave way to streaming.”



Todd Eckman (reluctantly?) turns over his pager to Kenny Ferguson, IMS Field Support Services director, ending an era for the Hanford Site.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Congratulations to our team in being awarded the Pillar of the Community Award by Safe Harbor Support Center and My Friends Place.

HMIS Honored with Pillar of the Community Award

Contributor: Shane Edinger

HMIS was honored to receive the 2022 Pillar of the Community Award from Safe Harbor Support Center and My Friends Place. As one of their community partners, we are proud to support the important work they do to support at-risk families and homeless teens in our community.

“On behalf of our staff and those most in need in our community, we want to thank HMIS for your partnership with us,” shared Sara Harpster, executive director of Safe Harbor Support Center and My Friends Place. “Your year-round support allows us to continue helping local children and families heal from trauma, abuse and neglect.”

One of the core values of HMIS’ community involvement is to provide assistance to those in need to help improve the overall quality of life in the Tri-Cities. The programs and services provided by Safe Harbor and My Friends Place are critical to a healthier, safer and more vibrant community.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Celebrating the Wishing Star Foundation

Contributor: Shane Edinger

HMIS was proud to sponsor the Wishing Star Foundation's annual Wishes & Wine event at Goose Ridge Estate Vineyard & Winery. Attendees enjoyed an evening under the stars, celebrating the great work this non-profit organization does in the Tri-Cities and surrounding area, granting wishes to children ages 3-21 who have a life-threatening illness. This year's event raised nearly \$100,000 for the Wishing Star Foundation.

"We are so thankful to HMIS for their partnership and support," shared Cindy Guthrie-Tripp, Wishing Star Foundation's director of community partnerships and development. "These funds will help us continue our mission to assist families with children battling life-threatening illnesses. Thanks to companies like HMIS, we are changing lives one wish at a time!" Thank you, Wishing Star Foundation, for the incredible work you do in our community!



Vice President of Engineering & Projects Diane Cato (2nd from left) and her husband Bryan McGlothlin, and HMIS Chief Counsel Daryl Witherspoon (far right) and his wife, Deidra, enjoyed a wonderful evening at the Wishing Star Foundation's annual fundraiser.